

MINUTES
EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Weld called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present in-person: Jill Christopherson, Emily Berge, Jeremy Gragert, Roderick Jones and Terry Weld. The following Council Members were present remotely: Emily Anderson, Kate Beaton, Catherine Emmanuelle, David Klinkhammer, John Lor and Andrew Werthmann.

UPDATE

Update by Interim City Manager Solberg regarding City operations and local response during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on Tuesday, January 25, 2022:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
- Approving the Minutes of the January 11, 2022 Council Legislative Session.
- Granting new bartender licenses.
- Awarding a contract for Procurement No. 2022-16, Purchase of One Liquid Nutrient Spreader Chassis.
- Declaring the City's intention to exercise its special assessment powers under Section 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, for street, utility, and sidewalk improvements, and directing the City Clerk to give notice of a hearing scheduled for February 21, 2022, on the following streets:
 - Second Street, Platt Street to Vine Street (22-103);
 - Cedar Street, Second Street to Third Street (22-104);
 - Maple Street, Sixth Street to Third Street (22-105);
 - Folsom Street, Truax Boulevard to Third Street (22-113);
 - Jeffers Road, 200 Feet South of Prairie Lane to 200 Feet South of County Line Road (22-115).
- Authorizing a public hearing regarding the City's intention to order the repair and installation of city-wide sidewalk and curb and gutter according to Section 66.0907, Wisconsin Statutes, at 29 locations beginning with 806 Cliff Street, Parcel No. 01-0553.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Beaton "to adopt the consent resolution." Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATIONS

President Weld read a proclamation proclaiming January 27, 2022 as “Thank Your Mentor” Day and urging everyone in Eau Claire to thank their mentors and those who made a positive impact on them while growing up.

President Weld read a proclamation proclaiming Friday, February 4, 2022 as “Transit Equity Day” and urging everyone in Eau Claire to remember and celebrate the invaluable work of Rosa Parks and continue to find the means to create conditions for all people to thrive and proactively address disparities in health, social and economic prosperity.

ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the following alleys:

- Alley South of Vine Street, Sixth Street to Platt Street (22-501);
- Alley East of Barstow Street, Main Street to Grand Avenue (22-502);
- Alley East of Dodge Street, Jones Street to Gray Street (22-503);
- Alley East of Dodge Street, Gray Street to Main Street (22-504);
- Alley East of Dodge Street, Main Street to E. Grand Avenue (22-505).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Werthmann to consider separately the Alley South of Vine Street, Sixth Street to Platt Street (22-501). No objection was voiced and the Alley South of Vine will be considered separately.

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the following alleys:

- Alley East of Barstow Street, Main Street to Grand Avenue (22-502);
- Alley East of Dodge Street, Jones Street to Gray Street (22-503);
- Alley East of Dodge Street, Gray Street to Main Street (22-504);
- Alley East of Dodge Street, Main Street to E. Grand Avenue (22-505).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the Alley South of Vine Street, Sixth Street to Platt Street (22-501). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to postpone” to the February 7 & 8, 2022 Council meetings. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on the following streets:

- Mercury Avenue, North Crossing to Marquette Street (22-301);
- East Hamilton Avenue, London Road to Mall Drive (22-302);
- Riverview Drive, Marquette Street to North Crossing (22-303);
- Seymour Road, Starr Avenue to 250 Feet East (22-304).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Berge to consider separately Riverview Drive, Marquette Street to North Crossing (22-303).

No objection was voiced and Riverview Drive will be considered separately.

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on the following streets:

- Mercury Avenue, North Crossing to Marquette Street (22-301);
- East Hamilton Avenue, London Road to Mall Drive (22-302);
- Seymour Road, Starr Avenue to 250 Feet East (22-304).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Emmanuelle and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Riverview Drive, Marquette Street to North Crossing (22-303). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Berge “to adopt the resolution.”

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Berge “to amend the resolution” to continue the multi-use trail, from its existing location north to Wander Court, by the addition and or replacement of concrete. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

A vote was then taken to “adopt the resolution as amended”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution ordering sidewalk to be repaired in accordance with Wisconsin Statute s. 66.0907 on the following streets:

- East Hamilton Avenue, London Road to Mall Drive (22-302);
- Riverview Drive, Marquette Street to North Crossing (22-303);
- Seymour Road, Starr Avenue to 250 Feet East (22-304).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Lor and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

WORK PLANS

The City Council considered a resolution approving the Housing Opportunities Commission 2022 Annual Work Plan. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Beaton “to adopt the resolution.”

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to amend the Work Plan” by adding the following to the Specific Actions of the Ordinance & Policy Review section: “Update Council on innovative programs, policies, and sustainable housing technologies. Consider new housing paradigms such as a community land trust;” and adding the following to the Specific Actions of the Create Public/Private Partnerships section: “Continue to collaborate with community partners to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness.”

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Werthmann to consider the amendments separately. No objection was voiced and they will be considered separately.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Jones “to amend the Work Plan” by adding the following to the Specific Actions of the Ordinance & Policy Review section: “Update Council on innovative programs, policies, and sustainable housing technologies. Consider new housing paradigms such as a community land trust.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Jones, Lor, Weld and Werthmann. Nay: Council Member Klinkhammer.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Jones and seconded by Council Member Lor “to amend the Work Plan” by adding the following to the Specific Actions of the Create Public/Private Partnerships section: “Continue to collaborate with community partners to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Jones, Lor, Weld and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Berge, Christopherson and Klinkhammer.

A vote was then taken to “adopt the resolution” with amended Work Plan. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution approving the Transit Commission’s 2022 Annual Work Plan. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

GRANT

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing the Fire Department to apply for Department of Homeland Security grant monies through its Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program for the full funding of six new firefighter positions for three years. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Emmanuelle and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Jones, Lor, Weld and Werthmann. Nay: Council Member Klinkhammer.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending the City of Eau Claire Comprehensive Plan as part of the five-year review.

WORK SESSION

Council conducted a work session to discuss stakeholder involvement in the City Manager recruitment process.

CLOSED SESSION

Council President Weld announced that upon a motion duly made and seconded, the City Council may go into closed session to review, discuss and consider candidate application materials presented by Polihire for the position of City Manager and select candidates to invite for in-person interviews; and discuss and develop potential City Manager candidate interview questions, which is permitted in closed session pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(c), (f) and (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Beaton and seconded by Council Member Christopherson to “convene into closed session.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: January 25, 2022

Time: 8:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Terry L. Weld
Council President

/s/ Carrie L. Riepl
City Clerk